

| CHÉ AHN |

# 30 DAY DEVOTIONAL

PRAYING FOR

YOUR FAMILY



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## AUTHOR'S NOTE

*“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”*

- MATTHEW 7:24 -

A family that is built upon the Rock is destined to thrive and endure. When you look at your family, what desires rise up in your heart that you want to see God accomplish? As you stand on the Word of God and decree His promises for your family members, you will be securing a firm foundation for your house and laying hold of the inheritance that belongs to you in Christ.

I believe that whether you are married or single, have young kids or are an empty nester, God wants to bless your family. He wants to meet with you every day and to share His heart for your family members. As you set time apart to commune with Jesus and enjoy fellowship through His Spirit, you will begin to see the miraculous take place in your family!

I invite you to declare God's Kingdom to invade your lives and His will to be done in your family, on earth just as it is in heaven. Weave these intentional prayers and declarations into your daily rhythm and contend for blessing and breakthrough for your home. I am confident that God is eagerly waiting to open up the windows of heaven for you and your family!

In His Love,



| DAY 1 |

# PRAYING IN UNITY

*“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.”*

| MATTHEW 18:19 |

Incredible power is released when we agree together in prayer. The world we live in is a spiritual one. Every time you pray, you aren't just saying words into the air—you are taking action in the spirit! When linked together in unity, your prayers are joining a battle in the heavenly realms, sparking change that God wants to see take place on the earth. Let's all pray now together for the coronavirus! Pray for healing and a cure. We pray this evil virus would bring a Great Harvest.

My wife, Sue, and I daily practice the prayer of agreement, and God has brought us astonishing results. One of the most gratifying of our answered prayers involves our unbelieving family members. Sue and I put together a list of 28 of our relatives in the back of our Bible. It took us 35 years, but we have seen everyone on our list get saved!

Praying together in agreement every day is one of the most powerful things we do together in ministry. You can agree in prayer with your friends, coworkers, small group members, or you can move into exponential agreement together as a local church. Get ready to see souls coming to Christ and lives changed by the power of Holy Spirit!

*Lord, show me who You want me to agree in prayer with today.*



# INTERCEDING FOR SALVATION OF FAMILY MEMBERS

*“Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.”*

- HEBREWS 7:25 -

You may have been praying for your family members for a long time and they still have not responded to the Good News. Take heart! Each person you are interceding for in your family presents another opportunity to embrace God’s heart for them. Jesus wants you to learn the value of persevering in prayer, for He is already at work interceding for you and your family, with steadfast patience and endurance.

My uncle Mark’s salvation is a classic illustration of the power of persevering prayer. My uncle was a successful millionaire from a Buddhist background, but he was also an alcoholic and chain smoker. He was always closed off to the Gospel. Our whole family interceded for him for 20 years before he started opening up to the Truth. After reaching rock bottom relationally and financially, my uncle ended up giving his heart to Jesus at an evangelistic crusade, where he had a powerful encounter with the Holy Spirit. Strongholds were broken off his life, his marriage restored, and since that day, Uncle Mark has been serving Jesus wholeheartedly!

There is nobody so far gone that God cannot save him or her. Not one of your family members is beyond God’s reach! It’s His desire to welcome everyone in your family into His Kingdom. Continue to pray for them, and in God’s timing, I believe you will see the fruit of your faithful intercession.

*Lord Jesus, give me Your heart to intercede for my family members and help me to persevere in prayer for each one of them.*

# THE POWER OF FASTING

*“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?”*

- ISAIAH 58:6 -

Early on in our marriage, Sue and I moved into a new level of intercession for our unsaved relatives when we added fasting to our prayers. We made the decision to set aside every Tuesday to fast and pray for our family members. So we skipped breakfast and lunch, devoting those times to intercession, and then broke our fast at dinner time.

We developed this discipline during our early years on the leadership team of a large Bible study in the 70's, and we were so encouraged as thousands of people came to know Jesus during those years. We also learned about the power of prayer and fasting through the Jesus People Movement and its sweeping revival. Then through my partnership with Lou Engle in the fasting and prayer movement known as The Call, I continued to witness firsthand the importance of fasting and the incredible results that it can bring. And believe me: If I can fast as a bona fide foodie, you can, too!

Fasting is so important because it will take your focus from the realm of the visible into the realm of the spirit. We deny ourselves, and God moves. We do not fast to force Him to move, but fasting often accompanies a sobriety to see change. The Word of God encourages us to pray with fasting, declaring that when we do, He will pour out His Spirit on all flesh. That's when things really do change. So never stop praying!

*Lord, show me how You want me to fast and pray for my family,  
that You would bring freedom to my relatives by the power of Your Holy Spirit!*

# CONSECRATION AS A SINGLE

*“I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.”*

- 1 CORINTHIANS 7:35 -

If you are a single, you are at a time in life when God can shape your future in radical ways. Before you have started the adventure of raising a family or buying a home, you have the incredible opportunity and flexibility to seek God’s will for your life and be obedient to His voice. He may be calling you into a career in a new city, or maybe even full-time mission work in another country. This is the time to dream with God!

Our heavenly Father makes each of us unique, so our families will reflect our unique callings and giftings. If you desire to be married someday, bring your requests to God as you continue to pursue Jesus above anything else. Trust that His timing is perfect, and He will lead you into the right relationship that is worth your full commitment.

When you are living with undivided devotion to the Lord, He will mold your future according to the destiny that He created you to walk into. A family that is founded on your relationship with Christ is worth investing in, and you can start doing that now through prayer. Tune into God’s heart for your future and declare the great blessings that He has promised you!

*Jesus, I give myself to You in undivided devotion.*

*I declare that my life and my family will be marked by Your radical blessings!*



# PRAYING WITH YOUR SPOUSE

*“Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves.  
A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.”*

- ECCLESIASTES 4:12 -

Whenever you come together with your husband or wife, Jesus promises to be there and meet with you. As we see in the prayer of agreement, the effectiveness and power of your prayers are multiplied when you pray together with your spouse. When you both dedicate this time to the Lord, you are giving Him the space to knit you together spiritually, emotionally, and relationally. A healthy marriage is built on the bedrock of prayer.

Every morning my wife and I pray for a fresh infilling of Holy Spirit. As we do this, we are posturing ourselves right from the beginning. One of our top priorities is to pray together for our children, grandchildren, and the specific needs of our family. Even when I am on the road, we make an effort to call each other every day, and we pray for our church and our staff members by name. Because this is a strong value in our lives, by the grace of God, we are able to consistently receive the strength, direction, and refreshing that the Lord provides during this time.

When you and your spouse are intentional about praying together, you will start to see miracles increase in your lives. Soon enough you'll find yourself beginning the day with, “Lord, thank You for answering that prayer. Thank You so much for what you are doing in our lives.” I encourage you to begin your prayer time by entering His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. The Spirit of the Lord is with you, and He wants to empower you and release His Kingdom through you!

*Holy Spirit, fill us afresh today!*

*Your Kingdom come and Your will be done in our family.*



# HONORING YOUR PARENTS

*“Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the Lord your God is giving you.”*

- DEUTERONOMY 5:16 -

The most fundamental dynamic in any family is the relationship between you and your parents. God has a heart for your entire family, but first of all He is calling you to show honor to your parents. In fact, this is the first commandment God ever gave with a promise attached! Living a life of fullness, prospering, and abundance is directly linked to your response to honor your father and mother.

I was blessed with two incredible parents. Both have gone home to be with the Lord, and both have left behind a legacy of being a great man and woman of God. Although my upbringing was rocky in many ways, once I met the Lord, I realized the enormous value of extending honor to my parents. We are all meant to constantly be thanking God for our parents, asking Him to bless them and make them fruitful laborers in His Kingdom.

Not every parent has a relationship with Jesus, and not all have modeled a spirit of honor for their children. You cannot honor everything your parents ask of you if it directly conflicts with the Word of God. But when it leads to blessing, God says that if you honor your parents, then as a part of His order, things will go well with you. The blessings and favor of God will be released into your life whenever you honor those He has placed in authority over you.

*Heavenly Father, I choose to honor my parents today. Bless my dad and my mom with the richness of Your Kingdom, and draw them closer to You with each new day.*

# GIVING A PARENT'S BLESSING

*“The tongue has the power of life and death,  
and those who love it will eat its fruit.”*

- PROVERBS 18:21 -

Abba God began His relationship with us by giving a Father's blessing. After creating Adam and Eve, He established both their identity and their destiny with His blessing. God created you to live a life that is fruitful and abundant. He also created you to walk in His authority on the earth. One of the ways Abba God wants to manifest His love and power in your life is through the blessing that comes from a parent.

My whole life and ministry changed in 1996 when I received a blessing from my dad. Leading up to that time, God showed me that I had been harboring bitterness in my heart toward my dad ever since I was a child. So, the day finally came when I opened up and asked for his forgiveness for the wrongful attitudes that I had toward him. My dad's response stunned me as he humbly asked me to forgive him for the ways that he had hurt me growing up. Then he told me for the first time in my life, “Son, you know how proud I am of you. And I love you very much.” So many emotions flooded my heart as I was healed by my father's words of blessing!

God the Father wants to bless you, and He wants you to extend a father's or mother's blessing to your children, too. Your words of affection and affirmation provide powerful support for your kids. Speak identity into them—who they are in Christ and how much they mean to you as a parent. Make Spirit-led declarations over their destinies, that they would walk in the fullness of God's overflowing blessings for them!

*I declare a blessing of love and divine favor over my children.*

*I bless my kids to walk in their identity and fulfill their destinies, in Jesus' name!*

# PRAYING FOR YOUR CHILDREN

*“This, then, is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.’”*

- MATTHEW 6:9-10 -

My wife and I love to pray for our kids. Every morning we lift up each of our children in prayer, targeting the specific challenges and opportunities they and their families are faced with. Sue and I start with the Lord’s Prayer, and we stop at each point to pray for our children by name. We pray for God’s Kingdom to come and His will to be done in their hearts and their lives—for His rule and reign to manifest in our children’s lives on earth as it is in heaven. By being intentional in seeking His face and praying for our family, we have seen God do so many miracles. He delights to answer our prayers!

During their early years, we prayed that each of our kids would come to know Jesus at a young age. We sowed into their futures by praying that they would walk into their God-given destiny, and when the time is right, find a godly spouse. Sue and I have been overjoyed to see the Lord answer our prayers, as our kids have grown to lead lives full of God’s blessings and start families of their own. I encourage you to pray for your kids according to the leading of the Spirit and the season of life they are in. God wants to see your children prosper in everything they set their hands to do!

*Father God, I pray my children will be led by Your Spirit and Your Word. I bless them to be carriers of Your Kingdom and to walk out the fullness of their destiny in You.*



# PRAYING WITH YOUR CHILDREN

*“Start children off on the way they should go,  
and even when they are old they will not turn from it.”*

- PROVERBS 22:6 -

Children are so impressionable. The simple act of sitting down with your kids and acknowledging the Lord’s presence with them will set them on the path of life and abundance. When children see you model prayer and spiritual authority at home, they will follow your example and learn how to practice God’s presence on a daily basis.

As young parents, Sue and I instilled in our children the value of going to God in prayer.

Prayer is an every day, every moment activity. It is our constant connection with God through the hills and valleys of life. As our children grew up, they received continual reminders that God listens to every word of prayer they lift up to Him.

Listening intently to the Father’s heart as His child is an essential part of our walk of faith. Jesus wants your little ones to know that they can call on Him at any time. They can talk with Him as a Father and Friend. And like the psalmist, they will be able to boldly say, “I called on the Lord, and He answered me!”

*Jesus, thank You that You desire to speak with my children.*

*I ask that they would run to You and learn to follow You all the days of their life.*

| DAY 10 |

# PRAYING FOR A PRODIGAL CHILD

*“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.”*

- LUKE 15:20 -

I believe that love is proportional to hurt. The more you love a person, the more that person has the capacity to hurt you. If your son or daughter has broken relationship with you, or with God, there is understandably a lot of emotional pain involved. But just imagine how much more God the Father’s heart is moved by this situation.

An incredible testimony comes to mind involving one of my friends from New York City. Years ago, his daughter left the church, had a baby outside of marriage, and was living with her boyfriend. This caused much grief to her father, who went through a season of depression. One evening, the father and his entire church congregation united in fervent prayer for the wayward daughter. The very next morning, the daughter appeared at her parents’ home—weeping and earnestly asking for forgiveness! Both she and her boyfriend then gave their lives to Jesus, got married, and ended up working on staff at the father’s church.

Every time a wayward son or daughter comes home in repentance, it brings indescribable joy to the Father’s heart. Jesus helped us picture this joy in His story of the Prodigal Son: At first sight of his returning son, the father runs out to greet him and immediately shows lavish displays of love. Whatever your circumstances may be, keep your son or daughter in prayer, and entrust them to the Lord. God’s heart is for your child to come back into His fold, where there will be great rejoicing awaiting them!

*Father God, I entrust my child into Your hands. Bring them home and encounter them with Your love and the power of Your Holy Spirit.*

| DAY 11 |

# SEEKING RECONCILIATION

*“All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.”*

- 2 CORINTHIANS 5:18 -

Families are all about relationship. When emotional and relational bonds are weakened or broken, the entire family often experiences the stress resulting from a severed relationship. Perhaps you can think of someone in your family who has hurt or offended you in the past. No matter where the fault lies, the love of Christ compels us to seek restored and renewed relationships, especially among our relatives.

One of the most impactful experiences in my life was when God brought reconciliation to my relationship with my dad. I grew up under the leadership of a God-fearing father, but there were many moments when his method of punishment crossed the line into physical abuse, which left deep wounds in my heart. On a certain occasion, I felt led to bring this up in conversation with my dad in a spirit of humility. To my astonishment, and to the glory of God, this resulted in both my dad and my mom asking me for forgiveness—the first time I had ever heard those words from them!

It is the Father’s good pleasure to heal relationships between family members. He is calling you to be an ambassador of healing and reconciliation in your family. Invite Holy Spirit to move on your hearts and follow His leading as you pursue restored relationships with your relatives.

*Jesus, show me how You want to move in my family to bring restoration and healing to our relationships.*



| DAY 12 |

# PRAYING FOR BROKEN FAMILIES

*“The Lord builds up Jerusalem...  
He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.”*

- PSALM 147:2-3 -

Everyone wants their marriage to be strong and healthy, but unfortunately we don't see that as the norm in society today. When I was growing up, divorce was a rare phenomenon. Yet today five out of nine marriages end in divorce, and many families are broken and dysfunctional. Your family may very well know what it is like to face trying circumstances like these.

The world would have you believe that your family is forever destined for dysfunction and disillusion—but God! All my life I have seen the Spirit of God move on hearts to heal and restore hope to families of all shapes and sizes. The relationship between a husband and wife, and between children and parents, carries such value in God's Kingdom. In the midst of relational turmoil and brokenness, God wants to move on your behalf.

Take the initiative in your family to set the new norm, where humility, compassion, and forgiveness are to be expected. Replace patterns of division with acts of service and words of encouragement. Don't believe the lie that divorce is inevitable. It doesn't matter what you've been through or how hard things may seem. I believe the power of Holy Spirit can, and will, make all the difference in your family!

*Holy Spirit, come and build up my family.  
Heal our hearts and restore our relationships through Your love and power.*

| DAY 13 |

# SEEKING FORGIVENESS

*“Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.”*

- COLOSSIANS 3:13 -

Love starts in the home. I have found that a good way of gaging our heart is to ask ourselves, “How well am I loving those closest to me?” People usually find it easy to love others who love them back, but it takes a supernatural grace to love people when they have hurt you. And that means forgiving others with the same forgiveness that Christ shows us.

For the most part of our 40-plus years of marriage, Sue and I have had an amazing journey, but in 1992 we hit a wall. We had a big fight, which led both of us down a road of depression, and we went to professional counseling for some time. It took a dramatic encounter with God in Toronto for me to realize how harsh and unkind I had been to Sue during our marriage. I first demonstrated my change of heart through my actions and then deeply repented before her one evening, asking for her forgiveness. Heaven came down that night, and a deep healing took place in our marriage!

Every marriage and every family will still have those moments that I call “intense fellowship,” but things will be radically different when we walk in forgiveness as a way of life. Since Sue and I have cultivated a lifestyle of forgiveness, we have enjoyed the best years of our marriage, by the grace of God! The Father wants to bless your relationships in your family, and it all begins with being conduits of His love and freely forgiving each other in the same way that He has forgiven us.

*Lord, show me how I can be an ambassador of forgiveness in my family.*

| DAY 14 |

# PRAYER FOR SINGLE PARENTS

*“Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”*

- HEBREWS 4:16 -

We are currently living in the most fatherless generation. Statistically speaking, 40% of births taking place today are to a single parent. Many times (though not exclusively) it is the mother who then takes on the full responsibilities of bringing up a child. Single parenthood can be very taxing physically, financially, and emotionally. But it is God’s desire to work mightily in your situation!

Consider the story of Dr. Ben Carson. Growing up in inner city Detroit with his mother, Ben struggled in school and dealt with anger issues due to his father’s absence. Yet his mother relentlessly encouraged him, held him accountable academically, and spoke destiny over his life. Ben would eventually graduate with top honors from high school, attend Yale and then medical school. In 1987 he gained international acclaim by being the first neurosurgeon to successfully separate 8-month-old twins joined at the head.

Nothing is impossible with God! If you are a single parent, I want you to know without a doubt that God’s grace will be more than enough for your situation. Go to your Abba God confidently, to be refreshed, strengthened, and renewed. He will bring great blessing, success, and stability to your home if you simply open your arms to receive it by faith.

*Abba God, I come to You confident of Your love for my family. I receive Your grace and strength for today, and I declare a blessing over my children’s lives in Jesus’ mighty name.*



| DAY 15 |

# PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY OF GOD

*“I ask that out of the riches of His glory He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being.”*

- EPHESIANS 3:16 -

If you are a born-again believer, you are part of a big family! Deeper than any other relational ties, our identities are defined by our relationship with God and being part of His family. Sometimes the call to follow Christ means being rejected by your blood relatives because of your faith. Other times, there may not be many family members who live close or maintain contact with you.

No matter your physical family makeup, you play an important role in the family of God. Through the years, I have been blessed to travel to many different countries around the world, and I am still amazed at the beauty found in the Body of Christ! Whether in England, Russia, China, or northern California, I am in contact with so many spiritual brothers, sisters, sons, and daughters as we are continually encouraging and building each other up in our faith.

In the Kingdom of God, our needs are always met in abundance. God wants to provide you with deep relationships in His loving family so you can be strengthened in your walk with Him and walk out more fully in your divine destiny. Lift up your spiritual family members in prayer, and watch as God continues to expand your family with each new Spirit-inspired relationship!

*Father, thank You so much for my spiritual family.*

*I decree abundant blessings over the family of God in my life, in Jesus' name!*

| DAY 16 |

# PRAYER FOR EMPTY NESTERS

*“But from everlasting to everlasting  
the Lord’s love is with those who fear him,  
and his righteousness with their children’s children.”*

- PSALM 103:17 -

It’s a natural part of parenthood for your kids to grow up and leave the house, but things really change when they finally do! Sue and I know what it feels like to be “empty nesters,” as our four children have ventured into their unique callings and are leading families of their own. One thing that has remained the same, though, is our consistency in prayer for them. Now with grandchildren, we just have more family to pray for!

God cares about all the details in our lives, so we pray for our kids and grandkids for the “big picture” as well as practical, day-to-day needs. We bless our children to continue living out their God-designed destinies and experience His favor in their careers. We also pray for their physical health, finances, and safety on a daily basis, that God would fortify their marriages, and that our grandchildren would have a vibrant relationship with Jesus.

Each stage of life has its own richness and blessings. Personally, as a grandparent to six wonderful grandchildren, I am ecstatic to spend time with and pray for the youngest generation in my family! Look for opportunities to speak life and blessing into your family, knowing that God has incredible plans in store for each generation.

*I declare the provision and favor of God over each generation in my family,  
that we would see the fulfillment of God’s covenant promises for us!*

| DAY 17 |

# BUILDING A LEGACY

*“A good person leaves an inheritance for their children’s children, but a sinner’s wealth is stored up for the righteous.”*

- PROVERBS 13:22 -

Family is priceless. Legacy is timeless. As your family grows and you step into the new role of being a parent or grandparent, it’s important to keep looking toward the future. What kind of values are you instilling into your family’s culture? Values that are founded on the bedrock of God’s Word will never let you down—they’re built to last forever.

The legacy I want to leave my family is meant for multiple generations. It includes the time I’m investing in my kids and grandkids now, as well as the resources I’m saving for their future. But it goes beyond just a physical inheritance. I have purposefully built up each organization I lead through family, entrusting my adult children to carry out my vision. They, in turn, will run forward into their God-given callings and help their children walk out in their unique destinies.

Build for your family’s future. Make your family a priority, your marriage a priority, your children a priority, and this is your first ministry. As you cultivate your family’s legacy and seek first God’s Kingdom and His righteousness, doors of favor will be opened and blessings will overtake you!

*Lord, I choose to cultivate a legacy for my family that is built upon Your truth.  
I declare Your blessings over each generation of my family!*



# PRAYING TO BECOME PARENTS

*“The fruit of your womb will be blessed, and the crops of your land and the young of your livestock...”*

- DEUTERONOMY 28:4 -

One of the major signs of walking in God’s blessings is your fruitfulness in life. When Jesus teaches that we are to bear much fruit, I think He is covering everything from the fruit of the Spirit to being productive in life. However, the Bible is very specific that God also wants to bless the fruit of your womb. As in the Garden of Eden, God blesses us for a purpose: to be fruitful, multiply, subdue the enemy, and rule and reign with Him over the earth. In short, God wants a massive family to love!

Just imagine if Spirit-filled, Kingdom-minded Christians started to have large families. Think of the enormous blessing that we could bring to the world. You and I are the salt of the earth and the light of the world! You were created to be a blessing to others! More of God’s people who demonstrate His blessing and His love in tangible ways will be instrumental in bringing nations to Jesus Christ.

Let me add a word for those who are trying to get pregnant or have lost their baby due to miscarriages or stillbirth. My heart goes out to you. I have had very close family members lose their babies. The Holy Spirit is the Comforter; His desire is to bring comfort and healing to you and your family. And for those who are contending for a baby, I have seen God do so many miracles for couples who wanted to get pregnant. In faith I apostolically decree that God will bless the fruitfulness of your family and grant you the desires of your heart!

*I decree a blessing over my family, that God will bless my marriage and the fruit of my womb. Lord, we ask that You would give us the desires of our heart and enlarge our family, whether through natural birth or adoption.*

| DAY 19 |

# PRAYING FOR HEALING

*“Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—  
who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases.”*

- PSALM 103:2-3 -

Praying for healing should be something that is a natural part of your life as a follower of Jesus Christ. I call it living the supernaturally natural life. This lifestyle starts at home and spreads outward. When someone in your house or an extended relative is sick, ask if you can pray for him or her. In my experience, it is a rare occasion for anyone, including unbelievers, to reject prayer when they are sick.

I have been in the healing ministry for over 40 years. God has healed me, my family and friends, and countless others from ailments both small as well as life-threatening. I was healed of TMJ after a year and a half by choosing to take God at His word and declaring over my jaw the healing that Jesus purchased for me at the cross. Time and time again, I have seen the power of decreeing God’s healing through the redemptive work of Jesus.

What parent doesn’t want to see his or her sick child well again? Our God is a personal, loving Father who is interested in every aspect of your life, including your physical health. Go to Him confidently in prayer with both big and small concerns. Our good heavenly Father desires the well-being of your entire family.

*Father, thank You that it is Your desire to heal me physically.  
I decree a blessing over my family that we will walk in divine health.*

| DAY 20 |

# PRAYING FOR PROTECTION

*“He will cover you with his feathers,  
and under his wings you will find refuge;  
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.”*

- PSALM 91:4 -

In life you will encounter all kinds of dangers and troubles, but our Abba God desires to keep us from falling into them. Many people are living in fear and panic with the coronavirus epidemic. As parents, Sue and I know that God has naturally wired dads and moms to be on the alert to protect our kids. Prayer has the power to change the course of history, and that definitely rings true when praying for covering and protection for your family.

I remember when our kids were in their teenage years, one day Sue felt a heavy burden on her heart to intercede for one of our daughters all day. She didn't know exactly what was going on, but Holy Spirit impressed on Sue to pray for her protection. We would find out later that our daughter was involved in a horrible car accident, where another driver ran a red light and violently rammed into a street light. She easily could have died, but God saved our daughter's life and protected her from serious injury!

Your prayers are valuable, and God truly listens to each prayer you pray. He is a shield and fortress for every child who belongs to Him. God is your Mighty Defender who actively responds to your prayers and will protect your family through all the twists and turns of life.

*The Lord is our Shepherd and our Refuge.*

*I declare His supernatural protection over my family in Jesus' name.*



| DAY 21 |

# PRAYING FOR PROVISION

*“And my God will meet all your needs  
according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.”*

- PHILIPPIANS 4:19 -

Most people today would agree that money poses large problems in our nation. It's estimated that 2 out of 3 Americans deal with financial stress. Finances are actually the top reason people file for divorce—“till debt do us part.” We are in financial crisis as many ministries, businesses and workplaces are shut down from the coronavirus. Despite all the potential pitfalls and an unstable economy, I believe we can receive faith and supernatural provision straight from the fathers hands.

When our four kids were young, my wife and I were living from paycheck to paycheck, as we were just starting a church and I was a student in seminary. Honestly, there were days when we didn't know where our next meal would come from. But in His goodness and mercy, God put it into people's hearts to drop off food at our door when we needed it most. Someone even brought us a whole turkey for Thanksgiving!

During times of lack and times of abundance, we have learned to put our trust in God's provision for our lives. Jesus is inviting you to follow Him, to rely on His loving care, and to believe that He will take care of all your needs according to His riches. You never need to worry about tomorrow when God is your Provider!

*I declare a blessing over my finances  
and God's supernatural provision for all of my family's needs.*

# DWELLING IN PEACE

*“My people will live in peaceful dwelling places,  
in secure homes,  
in undisturbed places of rest.”*

- ISAIAH 32:18 -

There’s nothing like coming home to a loving family and a peaceful environment. There can be a lot of stressors around you — the coronavirus epidemic, at work, in the news, or even during your commute. But it is a true blessing to have a home where the peace of God is tangibly present. When we walk in God’s ways and seek Him first, His shalom will manifest in our family and in our home.

The peace that Christ gives is all-encompassing. When the members of my family are relationally at peace, we are intentionally connecting with one another, upholding good communication patterns, and resolving any conflict that arises. God’s peace also turns our home into a safe haven, where we lay down our burdens and choose to trust God in everything. We also pray for the peace of Heaven to fill our hearts and minds as we rest and dream at night.

You can experience this peace in your home, too. Whatever is going on in your life right now, offer it to God in complete surrender, knowing that He will provide for and protect your family. In this place of trusting God, every other issue will seem so much smaller—because God is good and He is in control. Jesus promises that He is our peace.

*Jesus, we welcome You, the Prince of Peace, to reign in our home.  
Surround us and keep us every day in Your perfect peace.*

# DEDICATING YOUR HOUSEHOLD

*“...But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”*

- JOSHUA 24:15 -

When God saves you, Heaven is claiming the territory of your heart—and your household! Your walk of faith is not just meant for you; it is meant for your entire family. Throughout Scripture we hear the clear call to lead our families by dedicating our household to the Lord and following Him together in unity. When you lay the right foundation, everything else will stand firm.

As the years have gone by, I can bear witness to the Lord’s faithfulness to me and my family. Though the storms of life have come, our household has remained strong by continually abiding in Christ and trusting Him in every season. Fidelity in marriage and healthy relationships that are built on the Rock of Christ are destined to prove resilient throughout any test or trial that your family may face.

Immerse your lives in the Word of God and do life according to His Spirit. Make declarations of His sure promises over each member of your family. When your household belongs to God, nothing will be able to come between you and His abundant blessings!

*As for me and my household, we will serve You, Lord.*

*We will walk in every blessing that is our inheritance in Christ Jesus!*



| DAY 24 |

# WELCOMING HOLY SPIRIT IN YOUR HOME

*“Now the Lord is the Spirit,  
and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”*

- 2 CORINTHIANS 3:17 -

Every home has its own unique atmosphere. Beyond just the physical characteristics of design and decor in your house, it is your job to steward the spiritual environment where you live. As a child of God, you have the authority to bless your home and create an atmosphere that is aligned with the realities of Heaven. One clear call to set apart your dwelling for God’s glory is to continually welcome Holy Spirit into everything you do.

I believe every Christian home is meant to feel and enjoy the presence of God. During our over 40 years of marriage, Sue and I have learned the importance of welcoming, appreciating, and honoring Holy Spirit in our family. At home and in our church family, we have often said, “The presence of the Holy Spirit is not just the icing on the cake—it is the cake!” When Holy Spirit is welcomed, the blessings, favor, and glory of God will increase in your home, as you abide in Him and recognize His indwelling presence.

Your heavenly Father wants you to host His Spirit in your house—permanently! Holy Spirit is the One who brings freedom and makes us more like Jesus. He is the key to experiencing Heaven on earth. And the perfect place for Him to start His transformational work in you each day is in a home that welcomes His sweet presence.

*Holy Spirit, I welcome You in my home and in my family.  
Come and make Your presence known in everything we do.*

# FOLLOWING THE LORD'S VOICE

*“My sheep listen to my voice;  
I know them, and they follow me.”*

- JOHN 10:27 -

Every believer was created to hear the voice of God. Whether or not you are used to recognizing it, God is constantly speaking, and all you have to do is tune in to what He is saying. At its core, prayer is God speaking to us what He wants to decree in His name. That is why listening to God's voice is a huge part of prayer.

When Sue and I were a young couple, Holy Spirit gave us insight on how to pray for her mother. After noticing spiritual heaviness when we visited her parents' home, we then prayed according to what we heard from God and rebuked a spirit that was oppressing her mom. That same weekend, Sue's mother went to a retreat led by a Charismatic Catholic, where she got saved and baptized in the Spirit! The next time we visited their home, the atmosphere had completely shifted from darkness to light.

Whenever you pray for your family, pray prophetically! Jesus showed us the pattern that Heaven always initiates when we are walking according to the Spirit. Holy Spirit has been given to you so you can know God. When illuminated by the Spirit, the Word becomes revelation that leads to a divine encounter, which ultimately produces personal transformation.

*Holy Spirit, help my family to recognize Your voice more clearly  
and guide us into all Truth as we walk closer to You each day.*

# CREATING A CULTURE OF HONOR

*“Be devoted to one another in love.  
Honor one another above yourselves.”*

- ROMANS 12:10 -

Honor is one of the foundations of a healthy family. If we are to receive honor, we must first learn how to give honor to others. Honoring others causes the favor of God to flow throughout our lives. The Lord gives grace to the humble, and before God can exalt us, we must learn to submit to others in humility.

I can testify that God’s blessings have been released into my life as I have properly aligned myself under both spiritual and earthly authority. When you understand how to honor others and how to properly align yourself under God-given authority, the honor and favor of the Lord will be released abundantly in your life. This is essential to stewarding the abiding glory of God in your home.

Honor and favor ultimately come from God, yet their outward expressions often come through people. Posturing yourself with an attitude of humility and apologizing to others when you are at fault are effective ways to communicate honor. A Spirit-led home will thrive when its members properly respect and bless authority as a part of God’s order. In this way, blessings will flow freely in your family.

*I declare that my home will be known as a place where honor is freely given to all.  
Lord, teach us how to intentionally love and honor one another.*



# WALKING IN CHRISTLIKE CHARACTER

*“Follow God’s example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”*

- EPHESIANS 5:1-2 -

Whose example are you following? The people and things that we give our attention to the most set the tone for the rest of our lives. God wants you to live and act with character that reflects His nature. When we look to Jesus, everything about Him defines what a Christian’s character is truly meant to look like.

For me, Christlike character can be summed up in one word, “love.” If God is love and we are to be like Him, then we need to love as He has loved us. The way I measure my Christlike maturity is by how well I love the people closest to me. It begins with my wife and children, and then fans out to the rest of my relationships, including the unbelievers that I encounter in life.

To grow into Christlike character, sustaining intimacy with God is immensely important. Spend time with Him as you meditate on His Word and speak with Him every day in prayer. Be sensitive to the voice of Holy Spirit, and ask Him to continually fill you! Also be intentional about fellowshiping with other brothers and sisters in Christ. Spirit-inspired transformation takes place within the context of community.

*Jesus, cause Your love to overflow in my life, that I would be transformed from glory to glory and grow more into Your image and character.*

# MARKED BY LOVE

*“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.  
But the greatest of these is love.”*

- 1 CORINTHIANS 13:13 -

More than any other characteristic, our relationship with God is defined by our capacity to love and to be loved. This divine agape love originates from God alone, but it is made perfect when we allow His love to flow through us to the people in our lives. The greatest pursuit you will ever undertake in life is to grow in love—to love God and to love people.

God’s love radically encountered me when I was a 17-year-old hippie and drug pusher. I was living a party lifestyle, but the moment I cried out to God, the love of Jesus enveloped me and sparked a total life transformation! After that encounter, I naturally started to show love to my family by actively serving them and taking practical steps to bless them. At the time, this meant taking out the trash for my sister, and getting a haircut to honor my dad!

A good way of measuring love is to look at how we love our family members. Am I acting with kindness, patience, and generosity? The ability to love others well begins in the home, and it naturally leads to sharing God’s love with your neighbors, friends, coworkers, and everybody you meet. Make your family’s top priority be to love each other with the love of Christ, and you will be amazed at what God does.

*Father God, give me a deeper revelation of Your love so that I may love You,  
love my family, and love others as Christ has loved us.*

# LEARNING YOUR LOVE LANGUAGES

*“A new command I give you: Love one another.  
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”*

- JOHN 13:34 -

Despite what many in the world may think, love is not all about an emotional experience. The ability to sustain a loving relationship with your spouse and with your family members begins with you making a choice: to love them sacrificially, with God’s agape love. You may have heard it said, “Love looks like something.” One helpful pattern of translating love into action is to learn your family’s love languages.

My wife’s love language is quality time. Spending time together is incredibly important, and for us this can look like a weekly date, family night, or regular devotions together. Sue also knows that my love language is acts of service, so she often expresses love and honor in practical ways that mean a lot to me. When I’m coming home from a long trip, Sue goes out of her way to get my clothes dry-cleaned and she’ll even prepare a delicious home-cooked steak dinner for me. I am so blessed!

Family matters aren’t always easy, but with the proper truths from Scripture and with God’s help, you have the power to cultivate a great marriage and a healthy family. Get to know each other’s love languages. Look for fun, creative ways to express God’s love to your family members.

*Jesus, show me how I can communicate love to my family  
in ways that resonate with their hearts and bring us closer.*



# FAMILY MOUNTAIN OF CULTURE

*“In the last days the mountain of the LORD’s temple will be established  
as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills,  
and all nations will stream to it.”*

- ISAIAH 2:2 -

What I have learned over decades of ministry, marriage, and fatherhood is that healthy families are the backbone of the church. To go one step further, a healthy marriage is the backbone of a healthy family. I take my role as husband and father very seriously, and not only that, I love spending time with my family. When families are built up by the God-ordained relationship between man and wife, the Church will likewise be built up, becoming a more effective agent of God’s glory to our nation and to the world!

A healthy family, beginning with a healthy marriage, acts as a powerful model of love, commitment, and service to others. When you lead as an example of God’s intentions for family, this will create a ripple effect in your sphere of cultural influence. A godly example of marriage and family dynamics will bring hope of wholeness and restoration into the lives of those around you.

The Body of Christ is called to be the salt and light to society by modeling what it looks like to follow the ways of God rather than the ways of the world. God is inviting us to learn how to be loving spouses and parents, aunts and uncles—not only for our own sake, but because our friends, family, and neighbors are yearning for examples of healthy families. When we step up to the plate and walk in the love and power of Holy Spirit, the culture around us will shift and start looking more like God’s Kingdom.

*Father God, raise up my family to model Your love well so that You may  
receive glory in our community, in our city, and in our culture.*





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